

REMARKS

1. Applicants respond to the Office Action after confirming telephonically with the Examiner on September 9, 2004, that the Supplemental Amendment submitted by the Applicants on August 6, 2004, crossed in the mail with the current Office Action. The Examiner requested that Supplemental Amendment be incorporated into this response, which has been done. Specifically, in that response the specification was amended on page 4, at line 9 to correct the wording of "the ink" to read "the ink jet" and on page 19, at lines 10-11 to correct the wording of "build material in the reservoir 30" to read "build material 30 in the reservoir or receptacle 22" based on support found later on that same page at lines 15-17 and 21-23. Correction was also made on page 20, at line 12 of the specification to correct the wording "build material" to read "support material." No new matter has been added by these changes. Claims 21, 27, and 85 were corrected in that Supplemental Amendment to correct minor grammatical errors in claims 21 and 27 and to correct the misnumbering of claim 85 where in the preliminary amendment the claim was referred to as claim 86.

2. Applicants in this response have amended claims 1, 6, 8, 10, 12, 21, 27, 67, 72 and 85 in this response. Claims 67 and 72 have had their dependency changed to depend from amended claim 1, claim 6 has had its dependency changed to depend from claim 4, and claim 8 has had its dependency changed to depend from claim 1 since dependent claims 5 and 7 have been canceled. Claim 1 has incorporated the limitations of canceled claim 5 and now canceled but previously objected to, but indicated as allowable claim 7, as well as the limitations of objected to, but indicated as allowable claim 15. Claim 12 has had its dependency changed from claim 15 to claim 10 to correct and inadvertent inputting error. Independent claim 10 has had the limitations relating to a computer controller from allowed claim 22 incorporated into it. The changes to Claims 21 and 27 correct minor grammatical errors and the change to Claims 85 corrects the mis-numbering of the claim wherein the preliminary amendment listed it as Claim 86.

3. The specification, in addition to the changes referenced above in paragraph 1, has been amended to promote accuracy and readability in the paragraph beginning on page 10, at line

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20 by correcting the phrase "thermal heat" to read 'thermal energy' and to provide current patent application serial numbers for pending applications for which only internal docket numbers were available at the time of filing. No new matter has been presented with this amendatory language.

4. Claims 1-6, 10-14, 21, 68-80 and 82-83 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(c) as being anticipated by Barlage, III et al. (US 5,784,279). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1 and 10 have been amended to incorporate limitations of allowed and objected to but indicated as allowable claims. Specifically claim 1 has incorporated the limitations of canceled claim 5, as well as the limitations of objected to, but indicated as allowable claims 7 and 15 so that the use of at least two hoppers, one for receiving the build material and one for receiving the support material is now recited along with the providing of queue stations for and the dispensing of each material, each different build material being associated with a unique visual characteristic. Claim 10 has had the limitations relating to a computer controller from allowed claim 22 incorporated into it. Accordingly, it is submitted that independent claims 1 and 10 and their dependent claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

5. Claims 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious and unpatentable over Ogawa et al. (US 6,170,942) in view of Barlage, III et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is submitted that the amendment made to claim 10 described above places it and its dependent claims 17-20 in condition for allowance. Accordingly reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

6. In summary, independent claims 1 and 10 and dependent claims 6, 7, 12, 21, 27, 67, 72 and 85 have been amended. Claims 1-30 and 67-90 remain in the application. Minor corrections have been made to the specification and claims to promote readability.

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Pursuant to currently recommended Patent Office practice, the Examiner is expressly authorized to call the Applicant's attorney collect at Valencia, California, if in his judgment disposition of this application could be expedited or if he considers the application not ready for examination or final disposition by other than allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,
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